Minutes of Meeting

Project	Taxi service	Date	2012-10-18
		Start-end time	19.00 – 20.05
Responsible	Lyudmil Angelov	Location /type	Milan/voice call Italy – Croatia - Finland

Attended by	Location	Remarks
Lyudmil Angelov	Skype	
Leon Dragić	Skype	
Marko Coha	Skype	
Jelena Jerat	Skype	
Fabio Kruger	Skype	
Igor Piljić	Skype	
Karlo Zanki	Skype	
Luca Zangari	Skype	

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1. Discussion of meeting protocol

   We decided that one person should try to lead the meeting to make sure the team stays on focus.

   ACTION: Lyudmil is leading current meeting

2. Discussion of cab service in Milan

   We gave a brief overview of the way cabs work in Milan:

   CONCLUSION:

   - most taxis wait in a queue at designated spots for clients or receive calls from the operators to serve a particular address; "waving down" a cab is rare
   - first taxi in line at a particular waiting point receives any fare requests in his/her area from the operator
   - Milan is divided into 9 administrative zones which determines what queue services what general area of the city

   QUESTIONS:

   - If a taxi is currently waiting in line in a particular zone, are they free to move to another one if they want to?
   - (Related to previous) If a taxi drops off a client in a particular zone are they free to leave that zone after or do they need to stay there until they get another call? Which zones are they allowed to go to after?

3. Discussion of the general architecture of the proposed solution

We generally agreed that we need three basic components:

- A centralized server: it keeps track of taxi locations and queues based on wait times within zones; accepts requests from clients for a taxi via a web service, mobile client, or web interface.
- A client application for ordering taxi service: communicates with the centralized server the location of the client; the centralized server then resolves the request, assigning a taxi to take it and communicating that information to the client.
- A client application inside the taxi: communicates its location in realtime* with the centralized server and receives notifications from it in case it has been assigned a client request; the notification includes the location information of the client.

* Realtime position tracking may not be necessary, depending on the answer to one of the questions outlined in section 2.

Feature ideas:

- Providing support for taxi sharing within the client for ordering cabs
- Providing trip estimation statistics (time of arrival of the taxi, for example)
- Providing the driver with the ability to save a spot in a queue in a particular zone. For example, if they've dropped a customer off in Zone 9, but only want to take their next customer from Zone 1 and are one the way, they send a request to the centralized server, which puts them in the queue immediately.

4. Discussion of technologies

We had a poll to determine how many team members are familiar with different technologies. Results:

- Java: 3 people
- .NET: 5 people
- Javascript: 6 people
- PHP: 4 people
- Android experience: 4 people

CONCLUSION: We clearly do not have consensus on languages.

ACTION: We decided to write up a report on a number of languages/frameworks that we think would be useful in building the solution. That should help us analyze the possibilities and decide what suits the team and project best. The technologies and people responsible for the reports are as follows:

- Ruby on Rails/PostGIS/Firehose.io: Lyudmil
- C#/.NET: Karlo
- Java/Android/JWebSockets: Luca
- JavaScript/NodeJS: Fabio

5. Action items

Several project management issues were brought up. Integrating those with the rest of the decision made in the meeting we came up with the following actions:

ACTION:

- Lyudmil will email Prof. Elisabetta Di Nitto to resolve:
  - The questions outlined in Section 2
  - Whether we need to elect people for mandatory roles before Tuesday
- Luca and Lyudmil will produce the slides for the presentation on Tuesday, October 23 based on the feedback for Section 5.1 and the meeting discussion by Saturday, October 20.
- The people responsible for the reports outlined in Section 4 should submit them before the next meeting
- Igor will set up a Google Group for the project
- Fabio will set up file sharing for the project
- Barring any issues that call for the team to get together sooner, we will meet again Thursday, October 25 at 7 PM CET.